

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB:TP

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CAB - MR. HORNEMAN

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R 120227Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, WS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS AIRWAYS (SPIA)

REF: WELLINGTON 1916 AND STATE 154905

1. DEPT BELIEVES THAT UNLESS WE SPELL OUT THAT WE ARE WILLING TO CONSULT AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO SPIA, THE GWS WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE ITS PRACTICE OF DELAY AND FOOT DRAGGING WHICH ENABLES ITS CARRIER TO AVOID COMPETITION FROM A US CARRIER IN THE AMERICAN SAMOA - WESTERN SAMOA MARKET. WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO MAKE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE THREATS, WE BELIEVE THAT GWS NEEDS TO APPRECIATE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR INTEREST.

2. WITH RESPECT TO TACTICS WE ARE OF COURSE PREPARED TO ACCEPT ENARI'S COMMITMENT AS STILL VALID, AND TO ASSUME THAT GWS DOES NOT PLACE PRIOR CONSULTATIONS AS A CONDITION FOR GRANTING THE PERMIT TO SPIA. THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY SETTING OUT US UNDERSTANDING OF SITUATION ALONG LINES

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OF FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS OF EMBASSY'S SUGGESTED NOTE TO

GWS WHICH MAY BE USED WITHOUT CHANGE.

3. HOWEVER, IN AN EFFORT TO SEPARATE CONSULTATIONS FROM PERMIT ISSUANCE SUGGEST THAT REMAINING TWO PARAGRAPHS BE MODIFIED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: "WITH THAT ASSURANCE HAVING BEEN GIVEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE US UNDERSTANDS THAT THE GWS IS NOW IN A POSITION TO GRANT THE PERMIT WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED, PREFERABLY BY TELEGRAM, OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE PERMIT IS ISSUED SO THAT IT CAN IN TURN ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WITHOUT DELAY.

"WITH REGARD TO PARAGRAPH TWO OF THE NOTE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE REQUEST OF THE GWS FOR CONSULTATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED DURING DISCUSSIONS HELD IN WASHINGTON, DC IN OCTOBER 1972, THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONFIRMS ITS AGREEMENT TO SUCH CONSULTATIONS TO DISCUSS OTHER AVIATION MATTERS. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF THE PREFERENCE OF THE GWS REGARDING THE LOCATION OF CONSULTATIONS.

COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. (END QUOTE INGERSOLL

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